

09/914716

518 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 AUG 2001

450118-02392

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Okada, et al.

4-25-02

Filed.: Filed Concurrently Herewith

Title of Invention: TRANSMISSION APPARATUS AND METHOD AND  
PROVIDING MEDIUM THEREOF

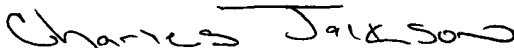
745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

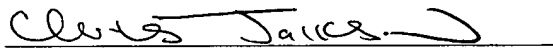
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 4 as follows: